

ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a unitary absorbent core having a basis weight of about 75 grams per square meter or greater, including a fibrous absorbent layer having an upper fluid receiving surface and a lower surface with a hydrophobic vapor-transmissive moisture barrier integral with the lower surface of the absorbent layer. Also disclosed is a process for the production of the unitary absorbent core, including the steps of (a) producing a fibrous absorbent layer having upper and lower surfaces, and (b) applying to the lower surface of the fibrous absorbent layer a hydrophobic material which at least partially coats at least some of the fibers of the lower surface of the absorbent layer.